

NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 85

5 December 1950

1. The following were present:

Dr. Appleton
Mr. Clinton
Lt. Col. Kiel
Lt. Col. Rogers
Lt. Cdr. Mutt
Major Rush

State
State
Army
Navy
Navy
Air Force
CIA
CIA (Chairman)

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DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒
☐ DECLASSIFIED
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2. The following definitions of categories by which D/Ba will report on the qualitative adequacy of NIS contributions received from the Agencies were approved: *Refer Item 2 #84*

Category I - NIS material which fully satisfies the fundamental requirements of a well-prepared and well-coordinated basic intelligence study, including such essentials as sound research, clear presentation, and substantive adequacy.

Category II - NIS material which with reasonable editorial support by Basic Division/CIA, will satisfy minimum NIS standards.

Category III - NIS which will not satisfy minimum NIS standards without major revision.

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[Item 6 NCM 263]

3. In connection with the comments due from Army on the revised elements of the NIS Standard Instructions, the Army member stated that the comments on Chapter III were in final stage of preparation but that comments on Chapter II would be delayed pending outcome of a study being made on the need for an additional section to cover air drop areas. The Chairman pointed out that much of the information desired on air drop areas was tactical rather than strategic in nature and as such it was highly questionable if it should be covered in the NIS except in a very general way under the present Chapter II outline. It was suggested that possibly a specialized study outside of the NIS would be a better means of satisfying the detailed requirements in this particular field. Army will consider the suggestion and make an effort to settle the matter at an early date so that submission of comments will be delayed as little as possible.

4. The Chairman read to the members a memorandum from State setting forth reasons why the name "Thailand" should be used in preference to the name "Siam" for NIS 42. Among the reasons given was that the U.S. Board on Geographic Names had, on 31 August 1950, formally decided that the official and conventional name of the country is Thailand, although Siam has equal status as the conventional name. In view of the BGN decision and the further fact that the change in name of this country appears to have been generally accepted by the U.S. and foreign governments, it was agreed that the name "Thailand" would be used for NIS 42.

5. The Chairman referred to the question of release of certain JANIS and NIS climatological studies to the NATO countries on which Committee action had been deferred since 31 October 1950 to permit the Air Force member to check MIC policy on release of intelligence material to the NATO countries (NIS Committee Report No. 82). Members were informed that the matter had been reopened to consider the following report from the Air Force:

"1. The Departments of the Army and Navy concur in the proposed release of climatological studies to NATO countries provided:

a. JANIS and NIS are not identified as the source of subject information.

b. The NIS Committee concurs in the release of NIS series as indicated.

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d. Extracts will only be released to Regional Groups of NATO on a "need to know" basis as recommended by the Joint American Military Advisory Group.

"2. It is requested that the proposals contained in attached memorandum be formally presented to the National Intelligence Survey Committee for decision. (No memorandum attached. Proposals set forth in 1a. to 1d. above.)

"3. Based on the above together with your decision and/or recommendations, the Director of Intelligence will prepare an appropriate reply to the Joint Meteorological Committee."

After full discussion of the matter it was the consensus of the members that since extracts only of JANIS and NIS studies are to be furnished to the NATO countries, with no indications of their source, the information so furnished

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is actually departmental intelligence over which the producing agency makes determination on release to foreign governments, based upon current MIC policies. Accordingly, it was agreed that NIS Committee approval for the release of climatological information to the NATO countries under the conditions set forth in the Air Force memorandum was not required. This decision operates to permit the Armed Forces Agencies to take appropriate action without further reference to the NIS Committee.

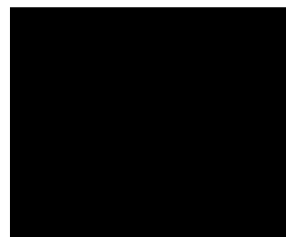
6. The Chairman announced that all proposals for revision of the FY 1951 Production Schedule had been received in D/Ba, and that these proposals would be consolidated into one schedule which would be submitted for consideration at the next meeting. In connection with the preparation of a tentative schedule for FY 1952, the Chairman suggested, and the members agreed, that action be deferred on that schedule until final action had been taken on the FY 1951 schedule. It was pointed out that even a longer deferment might be desirable in view of the world situation to assure that the NIS Program is geared realistically to the National requirements.

7. The Chairman informed the members of the reorganization of CIA and pointed out in particular those aspects of the reorganization which were of concern to them with relation to the NIS Program. Members were requested to regard the information solely for their personal use until such time as official announcement is made by the DCI.

8. The Air Force member stated that the Air Attache at Paris had inquired if State, Army and Navy had issued instructions to their representatives in the foreign missions as to their responsibility for collection of NIS material. It was indicated that there was some uncertainty on this matter among the members of the Paris mission. State, Army and Navy members advised that appropriate instructions had gone out to all their representatives and they agreed to work out with the Air Force member directly the question raised regarding the situation at the Paris mission.

9. The next meeting will be held on 12 December 1950 at CIA.

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